

# OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

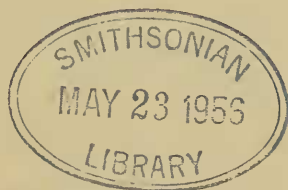
*Edited by*

**FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.**  
Secretary to the Commission

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## **OPINION 386**

Validation under the Plenary Powers of the generic name  
*Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799 (Class Gastropoda)



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# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

## COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 386

### A. The Officers of the Commission

*Honorary Life President* : Dr. Karl Jordan (*British Museum (Natural History), Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*).

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*President* : Professor James Chester Bradley (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953).

*Vice-President* : Senhor Dr. Afranio do Amaral (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953).

*Secretary* : Mr. Francis Hemming (*London, England*) (27th July 1948).

### B. The Members of the Commission

(Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology.)

Professor H. BOSCHMA (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (1st January 1947).

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (*Eva Peron, F.C.N.G.R., Argentina*) (27th July 1948).

Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (27th July 1948) (*Secretary*).

Dr. Joseph PEARSON (*Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th July 1948).

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950).

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950).

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History) London*) (9th June 1950).

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland*) (15th June 1950).

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. M., Germany*) (5th July 1950).

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950).

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953) (*Vice-President*).

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (12th August 1953).

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953) (*President*).

Professor Harold E. VOKES (*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953).

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Mezőgazdasági Múzeum, Budapest, Hungary*) (12th August 1953).

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953).

Mr. P. C. SYLVESTER-BRADLEY (*Sheffield University, Sheffield, England*) (12th August 1953).

Dr. L. B. HOLTHUIS (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (12th August 1953).

## OPINION 386

### VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE GENERIC NAME "PYRAMIDELLA" LAMARCK, 1799 (CLASS GASTROPODA)

**RULING :—**(1) Under the Plenary Powers (a) the generic name *Plotia* Roeding, 1798, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy, and (b) the generic name *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799, is hereby validated.

(2) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 978 :—*Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799 (gender : feminine) (type species, by monotypy : *Trochus dolabratus* Linnaeus, 1758).

(3) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 402 : *Plotia* Roeding, 1798, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers under (1)(a) above.

(4) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 678 :—*dolabratus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published

in the combination *Trochus dolabratus* (specific name of type species of *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799).

(5) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 259 : *lineata* Roeding, 1798, as published in the combination *Plotia lineata* (a junior objective synonym of *dolabratus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Trochus dolabratus*).

## I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 17th February 1952, Dr. Lothar Forcart (*Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel, Switzerland*) submitted to the Commission on behalf of himself and Dr. H. A. Rehder (*United States National Museum, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*) the following application for the suppression under the Plenary Powers of the generic name *Plotia* Roeding, 1798, for the purpose of validating the generic name *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1798 (Class Gastropoda) :—

**On the Generic Names “*Plotia*” Roeding, 1798, and “*Pyramidella*” Lamarck, 1799, and the proposed validation under Plenary Powers of the generic name “*Pyramidella*” Lamarck, 1799 (Class Gastropoda, Subclass Prosobranchia)**

By H. A. REHDER, Ph.D.

(*U.S. National Museum, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*)

and

L. FORCART, Ph.D.

(*Museum of Natural History, Basel, Switzerland*)

(Enclosure to a letter dated 17th February 1952)

The generic name *Plotia* was introduced by Roeding in 1798 (*Museum Boltenianum* : 95) without a diagnosis but with a list of 15 specific

trivial names. Of these 7 are *nomina nuda*, while the others have bibliographic references accompanying them. The first valid type selection for this genus was made by Pilsbry and Bequaert in 1923 (*Nautilus* 64 : 68), the species so chosen being the sixth valid species in Roeding's list, *Plotia lineata* Roeding (: 96). This species is an objective junior synonym of *Trochus dolabratus* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 760) the type species, by monotypy, of *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799 (*Mem. Soc. Hist. nat. Paris*, An VII : 76). A strict adherence to the rules would, therefore bring about the replacement of *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799, by *Plotia* Roeding, 1798.

2. *Pyramidella* has, however, been in common use since its introduction, and is the type genus of the family PYRAMIDELLIDAE, a very large family of world-wide range and of considerable importance in paleontology.

3. In order to prevent the confusion that would result from the loss of such a common generic and familiar name, we ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature :—

(1) to use its Plenary Powers

(a) to suppress the generic name *Plotia* Roeding, 1798, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy :

(b) to validate the generic name *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799 ;

(2) to place *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799 (gender of generic name : feminine) (type species, by monotypy : *Trochus dolabratus* Linnaeus, 1758) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* :

(3) to place *Plotia* Roeding, 1798, as proposed, under (1) (a) above, to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :

(4) to place the trivial name *dolabratus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Trochus dolabratus* (trivial name of type species of *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799) on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* ;

- (5) to place the trivial name *lineata* Roeding, 1798, as published in the combination *Plotia lineata* (an objective junior synonym of the trivial name *dolabratus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Trochus dolabratus*) on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*.

## II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

**2. Registration of the present application :** Upon the receipt of Dr. Forcart's communication the question of the use of the Plenary Powers for the purpose of validating the generic name *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799, was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 651.

**3. Publication of the present application :** The present application was sent to the printer on 19th May 1952 and was published on 29th August of the same year (Rehder & Forcart, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **6** : 346—347).

**4. Issue of Public Notices :** Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51—56) Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 29th August 1952 : (a) in Part 11 of volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which the Rehder/Forcart application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, such Notice was given also to certain general zoological serials.

**5. Support received from Dr. Joshua L. Baily, Jr. (San Diego, California, U.S.A.) :** On 8th January 1953, Dr. Joshua L. Baily, Jr.

(*San Diego, California, U.S.A.*) addressed to the Commission the following letter in support of the present application :—

The application of Dr. H. A. Rehder and Dr. L. Forcart in favor of retaining *Pyramidella* and suppressing *Plotia* meets with my complete approval.

As I have so often said to you, the most helpful step you can take in stabilizing nomenclature is to suspend the rules whenever necessary to preserve a name universally understood, where the application of the rules would compel recognition of a name that has never been used.

**6. No objection received :** The issue of the Public Notices specified in paragraph 4 above elicited no objection to the action proposed in the present case.

### III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

**7. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(54)50 :** On 5th April 1954, a Voting Paper (V.P.(54)50) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, “ the proposal relating to the name *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799, as specified in Points (1) to (5) in paragraph 3 on pages 346 and 347 of volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* ” [i.e. in paragraph 3 of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

**8. The Prescribed Voting Period :** As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 5th July 1954.

**9. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)50 :** At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)50 was as follows :—

- (a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following nineteen (19) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Bonnet ; Hering ; Vokes ; Riley ; Esaki ; Dymond ; Boschma ; Lemche ; Hankó ; do Amaral ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Pearson ; Hemming ; Cabrera ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Stoll ; Jaczewski ; Mertens ;

- (b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

- (c) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

**10. Declaration of Result of Vote :** On 7th July 1954, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(54)50, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 9 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

**11. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present “ Opinion ” :** On 12th August 1955, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate

that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)50.

**12. Original References :** The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

*dolabratus*, *Trochus*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 760  
*lineata*, *Plotia*, Roeding, 1798, *Mus. Bolten.* : 96  
*Plotia* Roeding, 1798, *Mus. Bolten.* : 95  
*Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799, *Mém. Soc. Hist. nat. Paris*, An VII :  
 76

**13. Family-Group-Name Aspect :** The present application was published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* prior to the establishment by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, of the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology*, and accordingly this aspect of the present case has not yet been considered by the Commission. It was stated however in the present application that the genus *Pyramidella* Lamarck, 1799, is the type genus of the family PYRAMIDELLIDAE, a very large family of world-wide range and one of considerable importance in palaeontology. The question of the addition of the foregoing family-group name to the above *Official List* is at present being investigated on the Commission's File Z.N.(G.) 126, and proposals on this matter will be submitted to the Commission as soon as possible.

**14.** At the time of the submission of the present application the name applicable to the second portion of a binomen was "trivial name". This was altered to "specific name" by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, which at the same time made corresponding changes in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of names of this category. These changes in terminology have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

**15.** The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing

with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

16. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Three Hundred and Eighty-Six (386) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twelfth day of August, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Five.

*Secretary to the International Commission  
on Zoological Nomenclature*

**FRANCIS HEMMING**